ASBESTOS

1940

Christmas Number

DURANT INSULATED PIPE . . .

. . . IS EASY TO INSTALL

Here is a system of pipe line insulation protection that withstands the many hazards of underground or weather-exposed service, and yet requires only a minimum of installation time and labor.

No wrapping is required, and no waterproof jacket, no tile, no mopping with tar and no binding with wires. Pipes are insulated and protected *at the Ehret factory.* By following the Durant easy-jointing methods at the job, permanent, service-free installations are assured.

Write today for the Ehret D. I. P. folder containing full details of the Durant System of Pre-sealed Insulated Pipe.

EHRET MAGNESIA MANUFACTURING CO.

VALLEY FORGE • PENNSYLVANIA

"ASBESTOS"

FOUNDED IN JULY 1919 AND PUBLISHED
CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THAT DATE

A. S. ROSSITER, *EDITOR*

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MAKE IT A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS

As we write this, Santa Claus comes parading down the street past our windows, and with him a large company of nursery rhyme characters.

The parade, which is an annual event in Philadelphia, is sponsored by one of the large department stores, and while it is to some extent at least a commercial proposition, the man behind the scene is known as a philanthropist who finds especial delight in giving pleasure to children, and particularly to crippled, orphaned or otherwise unfortunate children.

Christmas this year to we grown-ups will be shadowed by the horrors of war over half of the world, but while our own Christmas will be darkened by the terrible things happening in other countries, we must try to give to the children, our own or others, who are within our boundaries, the Christmas pleasures and gayety which are theirs by right of childhood.

There are many children in our own country whose Christmas will be unhappy because their parents are far away; there are many who will feel the pinch of poverty, whose Christmas pleasure may be limited to the public Christmas displays, or to some toy given by a charitable organization. Some may not even have that much on Christmas—Christmas day will be the same as any other day to them.

We urge all our readers to devote this one day especially to the children—adding to the delight of even one child at Christmas will have its compensations; seeing that the many are not forgotten—that they have some extra pleasure on that day will rebound to you in a joy long remembered.

REVIEWING 1940

The past year has been an eventful one, beset with many trials and troubles, all of which can be traced directly or indirectly to the wars which reach half way around the world.

Markets have been cut considerably, and this is especially true in the raw material field. In spite of the difficulties found at every turn, however, the Asbestos Industry has carried on bravely.

The Industry has seen many changes during the past year—personnel changes, some expansion, deaths—but let us review the year in more detail. What happenings have helped or hindered the Industry's progress?

Personnel Changes.

There were an unusual number of changes in official personnel in 1940, some of great importance. It is impossible to list them all but the following are of especial interest:

The resignation of Thomas Jenkins as Vice President and General Manager of the Norristown Magnesia & Asbestos Company, effective December 31, 1939.

The appointment on January 22nd of Frederick L. Curtis as General Manager of Manhattan Rubber Manufacturing Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., succeeding Colonel Arthur F. Townsend, deceased.

The election of Robert W. Lea, Vice President of Johns-Manville Corporation, as a Director of the Corporation—on February 19th.

The election of J. F. Edmonds as Vice President of The Anchor Packing Company, succeeding George M. Adams, deceased.

The election of George D. Crabbs as chairman of the Board, The Philip Carey Manufacturing Company, March 25th.

The election on March 25th, of R. S. King as President of The Philip Carey Mfg. Company, to succeed George D. Crabbs, resigned.

The election on April 11th of N. S. Talbot as Chair-

man, A. S. Noyes, Vice Chairman, W. C. Shriver, President, E. H. Janes and I. W. Tuttle as Vice Presidents, B. L. Brading, Treasurer, Eben Lesh, Secretary, of the Asbestos Manufacturing Company of Huntington, Ind., thus changing the whole official set-up.

The election in May of W. C. Bowman, L. E. Whitaker, C. A. Blinn and W. L. Steffens, as Vice Presidents of The Philip Carey Manufacturing Company.

In June announcement was made of the election of L. M. Cassidy and L. C. Hart as Vice Presidents of Johns-Manville.

Giles E. Hopkins was appointed Technical Director of the U. S. Asbestos Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., at Manheim, on May 1st.

John W. Hanes was elected Director of Johns-Manville on May 27th.

H. E. Manville, Jr., was elected a Director of Johns-Manville on October 21st.

Deaths

Death has taken no less than thirteen men from the Asbestos Industry during the past year:

Colonel A. F. Townsend, Chairman of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., on January 14th.

Philip A. Andrews, Vice President of Johns-Manville, on February 20th.

Gordon J. Monahan, Sales Manager of The Canadian Raybestos Company, Limited, Peterborough, Ont., Canada, on February 29th.

Bernhard Marcuse, President, Canadian Asbestos Company of Montreal, Canada, March 17th.

A. W. Vennema, Superintendent of The Manhattan Rubber Mfg. Division, Passaic, N. J., March 23rd.

Hugh A. Gillies, Vice President, American Brakeblok Division, Detroit, Mich., April 23rd.

Walter R. Jones, Industrial Sales Manager, Johns-Manville's Pacific Coast Territory, July 16th.

Edward F. Hale, Division Manager for The Ruberoid Co. at Mobile, Ala., July 13th.

J. O. Boylan, Building Materials Manager, Johns-

Manville's Philadelphia District, September 21st.

Richard J. Evans, formerly Chairman of the Board, Asbestos Manufacturing Co., Huntington, Ind., August 24th.

Gustave Koerner, Sr., former President of The Insulating & Materials Co., St. Louis, Mo., October 19th.

N. F. Wood of U. S. Gypsum Company, New York City, October 31st.

Many of these men spent the greater part of their business life in the Asbestos Industry, and their passing is a real loss to this Industry.

New Plants or Expansion of Old Ones

Some expansion occurred in the Industry during the year. The Atlas Asbestos Corporation Limited of Montreal took over an additional building, increasing its productive capacity by about 18% and also acquired the business of Joseph Spence & Co. of Toronto; in February The Flintkote Company announced its anticipated construction of a Two Million Dollar factory in Meridian, Miss., for the manufacture of a complete line of wood fibre decorative and structural insulation and wallboard products; The Philip Carey Company Ltd., of Lennoxville, Quebec, built a $50,000 addition to its plant at that point; Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., purchased a plant at Passaic, N. J., adjacent to the Manhattan Rubber plant, the new property containing 5½ acres of ground, with buildings giving 240,000 square feet of floor space; Thermoid Company at Trenton, N. J., built a two story extension to its Hose Department, another to one of its brake lining buildings, and a new employment office and hospital; Keasbey & Mattison Company at Ambler, established its laboratory and research facilities in a new, central Research Department; and the Union Asbestos & Rubber Company of Chicago, Ill., purchased a plant in Paterson, N. J.

Advertising Literature

Several noteworthy catalogs and booklets have been published on Asbestos materials during the year. The most outstanding of these we believe is the book on Asbestos Textiles by Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. Others of more

than usual interest are: Heat Insulation for Industry by the Philip Carey Company; The Story of Asbestos by Canadian Johns-Manville; Legends of Asbestos by Keasbey & Mattison Company; Safety Clothing Catalog by Asbestos Fibre Spinning Company; Products Catalog by Alltex Products Corporation.

Patents

The number of patents granted in 1940 in connection with Asbestos Products was close to 90 (about 30 more than last year), and these covered practically the entire field—insulation, friction materials, asbestos-cement products, gaskets, raw material processes, etc.

Mining

In the mining field, the outstanding event was the development by Johnson's Company, Thetford Mines, of the Rahn Lake Asbestos Mine. This began in June; no further report has been received up to the present time.

Miscellaneous

Of the various feature articles we have published during the year, one very worthy of mention is that by M. F. Smith, Research Chemist, The Philip Carey Manufacturing Company, under the title "The Origin of Asbestos"; this appeared in two sections, in our July and August issues.

Of the short stories we have published we like best "Corrugated Asbestos-Cement in the Far North" in our April issue. Others of more than usual interest were: "Painting of an Asbestos Mine", in April "ASBESTOS"; "Corrugated Turns Decorative"; "Job Mobilization" by Ernest Muehleck; and "From a Rock it Comes", all in the May issue, and "The Royal Society and the Asbestos Handkerchief" in September.

What was the oddest use recorded during 1940? Our vote goes to the using of asbestos Cloth as a breeding ground for fungi (see page 8 of September number); with the cleaning of furs (page 16 of October "ASBESTOS") and use of an asbestos safety disc in a new kind of flashlight bulb (page 3 of February), as runners-up.

Other items of interest which should be mentioned in this resume' of 1940 activities, are: the presentation of K.

& M.'s fiery snowman to the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, in January; the honor accorded Dr. H. W. Greider, Director of Research of The Philip Carey Mfg. Company, who was one of four guests of honor at the Modern Pioneers dinner held in Cincinnati on February 21st; and the election of R. H. Heilman as Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Thermal Insulation Materials (A.S.T.M.).

This review shows a most varied list of activities, many of which have had, and will in the future exert a great influence on asbestos trends and activities.

We are on the threshhold of another year. Just what it will bring forth no one knows but — let us step out bravely!

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SALESMEN BUILT AMERICA. If you wish to give your salesmen a gift which will be appreciated, this book, written by George A. Hughes, Chairman of the Board of the Edison General Electric Appliance, Inc., is an excellent suggestion. It is full of interesting experiences and stories that will inspire and help your salesmen. It is nicely bound and comes in a special gift box—the "book of the year for salesmen." The price is $1.50; less in lots of twelve or more. Further information can be obtained by contacting The Dartnell Corporation, Ravenswood and Leland Aves., Chicago.

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Initiative is doing the right thing without being told.

RESEARCH IN THE ASBESTOS INDUSTRY

By L. R. Hoff, President, Johns - Manville Sales Corporation

Mr. Hoff calls asbestos the "keystone" of their research department as from experience and development of the potentialities of this mineral can be traced the development of the company. Behind the busy manufacturing scene the laboratories ceaselessly work to learn new things about asbestos, to make it work and serve our modern civilization.

Altho many persons would have us believe that the research laboratories of modern industrial corporations are "houses of magic" where occult science and mystery are practiced, this is not actually the case. New Products and developments do not spring into being at the rub of some obscure Aladdin's lamp, but are the result of tireless effort, experimentation and exhaustive testing. Particularly is this true at the research laboratories of Johns-Manville at the Manville, N. J., plant.

The research department at Manville occupies over 35,000 square feet of floor space and includes complete development and material testing laboratories for a wide variety of products. The acoustical laboratory occupies a separate, specially constructed building, as does the machine shop where practically all special equipment is built.

E. R. Williams is the present head of the Johns-Manville laboratories which were developed more than ten years ago at the instance of the late William R. Seigle, former chairman of the J-M board of directors and Director of Research, and a confirmed enthusiast for research as a vital adjunct to modern manufacturing.

The research laboratories at Manville have been brought to the point where they are now the largest in the world devoted to development of materials for the control of heat, cold, sound, motion, and for protection against the destructiveness of fire, weather, and wear. In these materials are some of the greatest opportunities in the history of all industry for elimination of costly waste and inefficiency.

One of the materials which has been the subject of a good deal of research in the Manville laboratories is the

mineral, asbestos. Asbestos might even be called the "keystone" of the research department, as from experiment and development of the potentialities of this mineral, can be traced the development of the Johns-Manville Corporation as well as the expansion of the company's research department.

With the discovery in 1881, of huge deposits of high quality asbestos in the province of Quebec, Canada, this mineral began to play an increasingly important part in industry. Until that time, altho far-sighted men like H. W. Johns had early recognized the possibilities of the mineral, asbestos had played a rather small role in industrial production, because of the limited quantities of the material available.

Resistance of asbestos to high temperatures and the behavior of various fibres when subjected to intense heat has formed an important part of research studies, for contrary to popular belief, all fibres do have a definite temperature beyond which their effectiveness is impaired or destroyed. Properties of asbestos for use in heat insulations have, of course, been a leading subject of research and investigation. It was also determined early in these studies that asbestos is not a conductor of electricity, a quality which established it as a valuable insulating material in the electrical world. The discovery of chrysotile asbestos in Canada brought immediate improvement to the production of high grade asbestos fibres which now are produced as cloth or are fabricated into garments to provide protection against heat and flame.

The crude asbestos papers and asbestos millboard have, with constant development in the use of the fine chrysotile fibre, been perfected into a leading line of industrial products which are known the world over for high standards of excellence in performance.

These developments, however, only touch lightly on the development which research has made possible for the use of asbestos. Literally hundreds of asbestos products have been developed and improved to the great benefit of very nearly every branch and type of industry. Behind the busy manufacturing scene the laboratories ceaselessly work to learn new things about asbestos, to

make it work and serve our modern civilization.

Evidence of the far-reaching and beneficial result of this scientific "exploring" is seen in the fact that more than 50% of Johns-Manville shipments last year were of products which have been added to the company's line by its own research findings and its expansion and development program since 1928.

Among other things, this 12 year span has seen the development of many asbestos friction materials, asbestos packings, a line of fireproof asbestos building materials for modern construction and the creation of asbestos cement pipe for conveying liquids and gases, and to serve as conduit for underground electric lines.

The control of motion, a requisite of modern mechanical speed, is a field in which research in asbestos has made outstanding contributions. About a half century ago, the H. W. Johns Company, forerunner of today's Johns-Manville Corporation, was approached by a hoist manufacturer for aid in solving his braking problem. Asbestos, because of its known resistance to heat, was looked upon as the only material which could effectively answer the problem of a frictional material to brake the hoists. After many experiments with weaving asbestos cloth and impregnating compounds, efficient friction materials were produced which in a very literal sense saved the hoist manufacturer and saved the day for mechanical progress, and in addition laid a firm foundation for the role Johns-Manville was to occupy in the industrial friction field.

From the research in the Johns-Manville laboratories have come asbestos materials to make definite contributions to nearly every branch of industry. Among the products are friction materials and brake linings for automobiles, packings and asbestos roofing felts for industrial plants, Trancell sheet materials for the electrical industry, and in the asbestos-cement field, Transite pipe and sheet materials, building and construction products such as shingles, Flexboard, and Wainscoting and Marinite sheet materials for the marine industries.

From the foregoing examples the important contri-

bution research in asbestos alone has made to the progress of our industrial civilization and the march forward of the American standard of living, can easily be recognized. These accomplishments, however, are only the beginning. In line with the company's policy of producing better products for less money, each year sees the Johns-Manville laboratories discovering new ways to improve existing products and create new ones to aid industry in turning out better products more economically. This is true not only in the asbestos lines, but in many other raw materials from which Johns-Manville products are manufactured.

CORE SAND

Result of Tests Disappointing

The subject of using asbestos in core sand comes up again[1] because tests have been completed by a firm[2] which devotes much of its energy and time to analyses of sand for various purposes.

In the inquiry we received the claim was made that mixing a short grade of asbestos with Core Sand resulted in a much smoother core and one that seemed to hold up better.

The Asbestos Industry appeared to know nothing of this use of asbestos. Finally, however arrangements were made with the firm above referred to for the conducting of a test, and a 10 lb. sample of Asbestos Corporation Limited's No. 763-7R grade was sent them for test.

Report of the test has just been received. Briefly it states that while the core mixture does feel smoother when asbestos is used, the addition of the asbestos reduces the strength of the baked core because of the absorption of oil by the asbestos.

Somewhat disappointing. Nevertheless it adds to our knowledge of asbestos.

[1] See May 1940 issue of "ASBESTOS", page 10; also July 1940, page 18.

[2] Harry W. Dietert Co., 9330 Roselawn Ave., Detroit, Mich.

MARKET CONDITIONS

GENERAL BUSINESS

As the defense program gets farther underway, the effect on buying is extended to articles having nothing whatever to do with defense, or national service training.

It is impossible to adequately comment on the present business situation in this small space, nor is it necessary, but we believe that the following brief extracts from the National City Bank letter for December will be of interest.

"During the past two months the volume of industrial production has risen to the highest level in the history of the country, but the output has not kept pace with orders. In lines affected by the defense program manufacturers are working against backlogs running from months to a year or more ahead. Defense contract awards still run heavy and in the first half of November exceeded the October rate. More industries are approaching their immediate capacity than in many years."

ASBESTOS - RAW MATERIAL

No change in this market except that Canadian Mines will continue to curtail production during the winter months. No change in price.

ASBESTOS—MANUFACTURED GOODS

Textiles. Demand for Asbestos Textiles is on a continuing upgrade. Prices on certain types of Textiles have stiffened considerably, others are still quite low. The immediate future for the Asbestos Textile business is a cheerful one.

Brake Lining. During October, sales for domestic consumption were higher than those for any other month so far this year. When the total for the first ten months of this year is compared with that for the same period last year, the increase for 1940 is approximately 8%. Export sales declined from last year but recorded a slight increase over September, 1940.

Paper and Millboard. The demand in paper is about normal for this time of year.

Ship and cantonment work is making Millboard demand very strong.

Insulation. High Pressure. Shipments have increased rapidly in the last month as have orders for future deliveries. Demand is good at present and promises to increase or at least hold near current levels if public and industrial building is continued at the present rate.

Insulation. Low Pressure. The heating season began early and showed its peak load in October. Therefore demand in low pressure likewise reached its peak earlier than usual. Now it has dropped off and manufacturers do not expect much improvement for the next month or two. Demand will no doubt increase as cantonment work gets underway.

Asbestos-Cement Products. Orders in this line continue above normal for this season of the year because of sustained volume of construction in connection with the national defense program. As reported last month, the industry enjoyed a substantial backlog of orders for future delivery during winter and spring months for large industrial and housing projects.

The above comments have been made by executives closely in touch with the various markets mentioned. Such comments, or counter opinions are welcome from all.

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A manufacturer of asbestos products, entered a subscription for one of his salesmen. He asked that the copy be sent to the man's home, remarking that altho several copies were received at the office, he wanted the salesman, (who was in and out of the office, often away a week or more at a time) to be certain to have a copy of his own, which he would be sure to see and could read at his leisure.

Is there anyone in your own organization in the same position? If there is, a subscription sent to his home will insure his reading "ASBESTOS" each month, and he will find it both informative and helpful to know of the happenings and the developments in the Asbestos Industry.

HARRY W. COOK

His Biography[1]

Many of our readers particularly those in New England, know Harry W. Cook, District Manager of The Philip Carey Company with headquarters at 267 Medford St., Charlestown District, Boston. Those who do not know him personally will welcome this opportunity to become acquainted with him thru this biography and photograph.

Mr. Cook has been connected with the asphalt roofing and asbestos insulation business for many years, having joined the sales force of the Philip Carey Company at Toronto, Canada in August of 1904.

Previous to that time he had spent two years at Civil Engineering work in the employ of A. H. Engstrom, Engineer, Philadelphia, Pa., on electric railway survey and

Harry W. Cook,
District Manager,
Philip Carey Company,
Boston

construction in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Mr. Cook received his early schooling in the public schools in Geneva, Ohio, graduating from High School; later he was trained as an Engineer at Buchtel College, Akron, Ohio (now known as Akron University) graduating in the class of 1902.

After four years of selling work with the Philip Carey

[1] Second in the series of biographies of well-known men in the Asbestos and Insulation Industry.

Company at Toronto, he was made District Manager and opened a new Carey Branch at Winnipeg in September 1902.

In May of 1913 he resigned from the Philip Carey Company to become a member of a new firm organized at Winnipeg, known as the Canadian Asphalt Company, Distributors and Contractors in Asphalt and Asbestos Products. But in January 1916 he returned to the United States, becoming District Manager of the St. Louis, Mo., Branch of The Philip Carey Company; went to Buffalo, N. Y., as District Representative in 1923; and to Boston in 1924, at that time taking his present position as District Manager in the New England District.

"The transition of this so-called Asbestos Industry from moulded plaster paris to cellular and indented asbestos felt construction — to magnabestos — to 85% Magnesia — to High Temperature Products — has been a real, ever-changing joy ride," says Mr. Cook. "The pioneering sales of insulation with Professor Stott's meagre but definite reports to the modern merchandising methods, with their page after page of Technical Data, has been the progress that has made my connection with the Asbestos Industry an enjoyable one."

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The 1940-41 edition of A. S. T. M. Standards on Electrical Insulating Materials has just been published.

It contains the following Specifications for Asbestos Materials:

D299-37	Asbestos Yarns
D299-40T	Asbestos Yarns (tentative)
D315-37	Asbestos Tape for Electrical Purposes
D375-37	Asbestos Roving for Electrical Purposes.

Five tentative methods of testing for glass fabrics are also given besides specifications and methods of testing many other types of electrical insulating materials.

Copies of the 340 page publication can be obtained from A. S. T. M. Headquarters at 260 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, at $2.00 per copy in heavy paper cover.

TENT SHIELDS---

An Old Textile Specialty Comes to Life

Twenty-five years ago many of the textile manufacturers made Tent Shields in fairly large quantities, and carried them as a regular item in stock. Since the World War Armistice, however, demand has dwindled to practically nothing. So much so, indeed, that when the U. S. Government began calling for them for use in the National Training program, the younger men in the various asbestos textile manufacturing companies, and in the distribution and selling end of the asbestos textile line, had never heard of them and did not know even what they looked like, or how they were used.

For the benefit of those who are not familiar with the common species of tent shield, let us explain that the shield is used as a part of tent equipment, to protect the canvas of the tent at the point (around the hole that is) where the stovepipe goes thru the canvas.

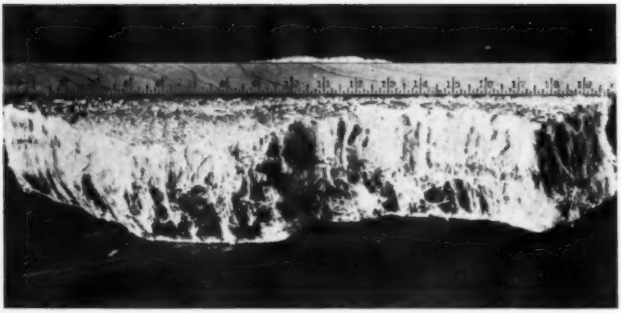
Those camps down south, where stoves are not needed, of course do not require them, but in camps using tents for housing in the colder portions of the United States where stoves are depended on for heat, the tent shield is a necessity.

The shield consists of a strip of plain Asbestos Gasket Cloth (rubbered both sides) cut on the bias, folded over a piece of rubbered wicking forming the inside edge of the shield that comes in contact with the stove pipe. Both outside edges of the strip are folded in about ½". The shield is then folded, rolled or pressed in the center of flange, the full distance around leaving outside edge of flange open to allow the canvas of the tent to be inserted and then sewed.

The Asbestos Fibre Spinning Company of North Wales, Pa., manufacturer of many asbestos textile specialties, is one source of supply. Any asbestos textile manufacturer could make these shields, but we understand that, being a specialty item, some do not care to do so.

Tent shields have also been made of asbestos-cement board, but those being furnished to the Army at present are most, if not all, of the asbestos textile variety.

THEY SAY!



This 20 inch piece of No. 1 Crude was taken from the Johnson Mine at Thetford Mines, Quebec, Canada. It came from the 300 foot level of the open pit.

The photograph was sent us by S. Simpson, President of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., who has this unusual sample of Crude at his headquarters in Bridgeport, Conn.

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"Look Homeward, America", theme of the 1940 campaign of the Certainteed Products Corporation, has inspired a song of that name, the composer being Richard Malaby of New York.

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Decree No. 50 of the Reich Board for Rubber and Asbestos orders the confiscation of rubber and rubber goods (except tires, which fall under Decree 51) including rubber solutions, reclaimed rubber, scrap and waste, and of asbestos and asbestos products. (Taken from Rubber Age).

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In the welding process asbestos paper is used — we always thought for the purpose of protecting adjacent parts from heat or nearby articles from flying sparks.

Now we learn of a second use — the paper is placed over the welded part after being finished so that it will be protected from drafts and so allowed to cool *slowly*.

A recent advertisement of Goodyear Steamhose, specified as Goodyear HD Asbestos Steam Hose, lists as one of its features "Braided asbestos cord carcass that does not char with heat, preventing instantaneous bursts". The advertisement was noticed in the November 25th issue of "Newsweek".

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A light-weight small-diameter deltabeston aircraft wire that can be used to carry power to any part of a plane with greatest possible safety has recently been announced by the General Electric appliance and merchandise department. The wire is reported to be serviceable for storage battery leads, circuit wiring for lamps, wiring for instruments, etc. and to be flameproof, highly resistant to heat and to oil and moisture.

The wire consists of soft, flexible tinned copper covered by a separator of cellulose acetate or cotton wrap, and insulated with a flameproof synthetic compound and a layer of felted asbestos, the asbestos being impregnated so that it is highly resistant to moisture and flame. An overall impregnated flameproof braid completes the insulation.

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In Sicily, natives tear down the old roof of their houses and build a new one when a baby arrives in the family, according to the Koppers Company page in The American Roofer. It is a very old custom intended as a gesture of welcome. Manufacturers of Asbestos-Cement products would probably like to see the same custom established in this country.

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Insulating Brick will be manufactured at the plant at Zelienople recently acquired by Johns-Manville.

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A battleship is 93% steel, but it also includes copper, lead, zinc, aluminum, cork, wood, cement, glass *and asbestos.*

CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

Training of Asbestos Workers Comments by L. F. Strieter [1]

"The article in November 'ASBESTOS' *concerning the shortage of skilled mechanics in our Industry, is particularly timely", says Mr. Strieter, "in view of the situation in Washington today."*

The normal membership of Local No. 24 (Asbestos Workers) of Washington, is approximately 60 men. At present, because of the U. S. Government building program, about 200 mechanics are working in this territory.

About five years ago Mr. Strieter realized the possibility of present conditions and discussed with Local No. 24 the desire of the contractor-employers to have more young men enter the Union, that they might be trained, ready to meet the increased demand for mechanics when they were needed.

Nothing was done; in fact it took about a year to get Mr. Strieter's own son into the Union. This, however, was not surprising, nor does Mr. Strieter criticise the Union for it, because 60 men will normally adequately care for all the work in and near Washington. It must be remembered that the insulation contractors in the Washington territory depend on local and U. S. Government projects almost exlusively for their contract trade as there are no industrial outlets in that section of the country.

Mr. Strieter makes the suggestion that a committee of Employers be appointed to discuss with officials of the International Association of Heat & Frost Insulators, the necessity of enrolling a certain number of young men annually as apprentices.

This Committee could also organize a retirement insurance plan, similar to that which has been so successful with other organizations, this to take care of the older members when they reach the age of retirement, and to be in addition to the benefits to which members of the Union are entitled under the Federal Old Age Plan.

Will readers in other districts send in their views on the Training of Asbestos Workers?

[1] Of the Southern Asbestos Co., Washington, D. C.

Building

Home-building operations are continuing at a very high rate thru the Fall season, according to F. W. Dodge Corporation. The total dollar value of contracts awarded in the 37 eastern states during the month of October for one- and two-family houses was $117,141,000, compared with $86,769,000 in October 1939, an increase of 35 per cent. In fact, last month had the largest small-house total for any October since the year 1928. There was also last month an 8 per cent increase in small-house contract volume over the preceding month.

The largest construction volume since 1930 is anticipated for next year by F. W. Dodge Corporation. Estimating the 1940 building and engineering contract total for 37 eastern states at $3,850,000,000, the figure for 1941 is set at $4,400,000,000, an indicated over-all increase of 14 per cent.

Construction for the defense program is expected to dominate next year's activities, to run to very large volume during the first half of the year and to carry a distinct possibility of enlargement if additional appropriations are made by the next Congress. Concurrent with large amounts of army, navy, air corps, defense industry and defense housing construction, continually increasing industrial production activity and industrial employment are anticipated, with stimulating effects on national income and private building demand (commercial, manufacturing, and residential buildings and electric utility construction).

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The Twelve Tables for estimating of flanges and fittings, etc., are still available at the price of $1.00 per set. Estimators of insulation find them handy.

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Everything worthwhile has a fence around it — but there are always a gate and a key.

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

BIRTHDAYS

Chas. S. Donnelly, President, Mohawk Asbestos Shingles, Inc., Oneida, N. Y., December 16.

W. E. Harvey, Asst. Treasurer, Thermoid Co., Trenton, N. J., December 19.

John P. DuBois, Vice President & General Sales Manager, Ehret Magnesia Mfg. Co., Valley Forge, Pa., December 20.

L. E. Whitaker, Vice President, Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Lockland, Cincinnati, O., December 21.

W. H. Huber, M. D., President, Asbestos Fibre Spinning Co., North Wales, Pa., December 22.

George N. Clark, Clark Asbestos Co., Cleveland, Ohio, December 22.

R. L. Clark, Clark Asbestos Co., Cleveland, Ohio, December 22.

Wm. Nanfeldt, Chief Engineer & Factory Manager, Worldbestos Corp., Paterson, N. J., December 22.

Jacob P. Epstein, President, Empire Asbestos Products, Inc., Glendale, L. I., December 25.

A. P. Smith, Secretary, Russell Mfg. Co., Middletown, Conn., December 25.

W. H. Truesdell, Chairman, Carolina Asbestos Co., Davidson, N. C., December 26.

Matthew J. Fitzgerald, Treasurer, Standard Asbestos Mfg. Co., Chicago, Ill., December 27.

A. G. Newton, President, Rockbestos Products Corp., New Haven, Conn., December 28.

E. E. Tanguy, District Manager, Armstrong Cork Co., Baltimore, Md., December 28.

Fred A. Mett, President, Powhatan Mining Corp., Woodlawn, Baltimore, Md., December 29.

C. E. Harwood, Sales Manager, Russell Mfg. Co., Middletown, Conn., January 5.

L. A. King, Manager, Tulsa Branch, Kelley Asbestos Products Co., Tulsa, Okla., January 8.

R. H. Chase, Vice President, General Manager, Plant Rubber & Asbestos Works, San Francisco, Calif., January 11.

John J. Liner, Vice President, Philadephia Asbestos Co., Philadelphia, Pa., January 13.

Thomas Murray, Manager Roofing Contract Department, W. S. Nott Co., Minneapolis, Minn., January 14.

E. M. Smith, Chairman, Emsco Asbestos Co., Downey, Calif., January 15.

To all these gentlemen we extend congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of their birthdays.

PACIFIC COAST ASBESTOS ASSOCIATION

Twenty-five Members Attend Annual Meeting

The 1940 Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Asbestos Association, held at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, San Francisco, Calif., on November 7th and 8th, proved to be unusually interesting, perhaps because the subjects discussed were somewhat out of the ordinary.

The meeting was conducted by E. E. Saberhagen, President, and was attended by some twenty-five members from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, Portland and Seattle.

Particular emphasis was placed on problems brought to the fore by the National Defense Program and the difficulty which is expected will develop in securing an adequate number of mechanics to properly handle the installation of materials. A decided shortage of competent mechanics is anticipated. The consensus of opinion of the meeting was that a greater number of competent mechanics should be trained, and an effort will be made to cooperate on the problem of apprenticeship with the various local unions involved and also with the State and Federal Governments where possible.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Richards Matthews of Los Angeles
Vice-Pres.—R. H. Chase, of San Francisco.
Secy.-Treas.—A. W. Knight, of San Francisco.
Directors—E. E. Saberhagen, Seattle
W. M. Binford, Los Angeles
J. A. Coy, Portland.

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DR. EDWARD BARTOW---

Chemical Consultant at J-M Research Laboratories

Dr. Edward Bartow, who has been granted a year's leave of absence as emeritus professor of the University of Iowa department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, has joined the research laboratories of Johns-Manville at Manville, N. J., as Chemical Consultant.

Dr. Bartow, former president of the American Chemical Society and president in 1921 of the American Water Works Association, will act as Research Consultant with Johns-Manville in connection with chemical problems involved in all phases of the company's research activities.

Dr. Bartow is author of "Reports on Chemical and Biological Survey of Waters of Illinois" a series published from 1906 to 1920. He has also written many papers on water purification, sewage disposal and treatment of organic trade wastes, and has been an assistant editor of Chemical Abstracts since 1911.

THE PHILIP CAREY CO.--Pays Back Dividends

The Board of Directors, of The Philip Carey Manufacturing Company, at its meeting on November 22nd, declared 10 quarterly back dividends of $1.25 each on 5% preferred stock, a total arrearage of $12.50 a share, payable December 20 to shareholders of record December 10.

In addition, the quarterly dividend of $1.25 on the 5% preferred for the current quarter was ordered paid December 31 to shareholders of record December 20. The quarterly dividend of $1.50 on 6% preferred will be paid December 31 to shareholders of record December 20.

With arrears on the 2,455 shares of 5% preferred paid up, the way is opened for action on dividends on common stock. Previously this year the company had cleared up unpaid back dividends on the 6% senior issue.

George D. Crabbs, Chairman of the Board, who made the above announcements, reported that business of the company continues good, with expectations for active business in the forepart of next year.

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DR. GERHART ROSENBAUM--In Shanghai

Dr. Rosenbaum, who has from time to time sent us articles on various phases of the asbestos industry written by him for various magazines, now writes us from Shanghai (P. O. Box 1131) saying that he has changed his residence from Czecho-Slovakia to Shanghai, where he has established an office as consulting engineer for the Asbestos Industry.

On his way to Shanghai he travelled thru Russia and Japan, in both of which countries he made a study of the Asbestos Industry. He tells us that the Asbestos-Cement Industry—Shingles, flat and corrugated sheets and pipes—is well developed in both countries.

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RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC., report net income of $1,359,621.93 for the nine months ended September 30, 1940, or $2.16 per share, after providing for depreciation and income and excess profits taxes. The Canadian subsidiary's profits have been omitted as not material, but will be included in the Annual Report of the Corporation.

The Directors of the Corporation ,at their meeting on November 20 declared a dividend of 75c per share, payable December 16, 1940, to stockholders of record at the close of business, November 29, 1940.

THE RUBEROID CO. Directors of the Company on November 26th declared a dividend of $1.00 per share on the capital stock of the Corporation, payable December 20, 1940 to stockholders of record on December 5, 1940.

Including the Ruberoid dividend of 30c declared last year,

this December dividend makes a total of $1.30 for 1940. Dividends in 1939 aggregated $1.10 per share.

PATENTS

This information obtained from the Official Patent Gazette, published weekly by the U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

Sheet Asbestos Product. No. 2,220,386. Granted on November 5, 1940 to Marion S. Badollet, Fanwood, N. J., assignor to Johns-Manville Corporation, New York City. Application December 23, 1936.

The method of manufacturing an asbestos product in sheet form which comprises forming an intimate mixture of asbestos fibres, water and a coagulating agent of the group consisting of sulphonated oils, sulphonated alcohols and sulphonated olefins in the amount of .2% to 1% based on the weight of the asbestos fibres, said coagulating agent causing agglomeration of the fine asbestos fibres, then forming a sheet from the material and removing the water therefrom by filtration.

Piston Packing. No. 2,220,993. Granted on November 12, 1940 to George Christensen, Plainfield, N. J., assignor to Johns-Manville. Application July 21, 1937. Serial No. 154,865.

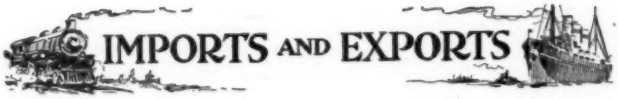
A packing cup for assembly with a reciprocal piston having a forward face, an annular wall projecting from said face and an annular groove in said face adjacent said wall, said groove being of greatest width at a point remote from said face, said packing cup comprising a base, a deformable bead formed of plastic material extending from the plane of said base at the inner periphery thereof and shaped and arranged for yieldable interlocking engagement with said groove and a continuous upstanding peripheral lip, formed integrally with said base and adapted for sliding and sealing engagement with a cylinder wall, said base and lip comprising a laminated fabric.

Concrete Pipe Manufacturing Machine. No. 2,220,975. Granted on November 12, 1940 to Aodhgan O'Rahilly, Mooreen, Clondalkin, Ireland. Application February 3, 1939. Serial No. 254,401. In Ireland September 5, 1938. Description upon request. (Quite likely this pipe contains no asbestos, but may be of interest).

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

In October 514,374 motor vehicles were produced (493,223 in the United States and 21,151 in Canada); this compares with a total of 324,689 (313,392 in the United States and 11,297 in Canada) produced in October 1939; and with a total of 284,583 in September 1940.

For the ten months of 1940 the total production was 3,674,434 (3,498,435 in the United States and 175,999 in Canada) compared with a total of 2,895,059 for the first ten months of 1939.



Imports into U. S. A.

(Published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)

	Sept. 1939 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Sept. 1940 Tons (2240 lbs.)
Unmanufactured Asbestos:		
Africa (Br. S.)	1,055	1,969
Australia	2	4
Canada	20,196	19,884
Cyprus	450	.....
Italy	303	.....
	22,006	21,857
Value	*$931,131*	*$1,009,440*
Tabulation of Crudes and Fibres:		
Crude (Br. S. Africa)	1,055	1,969
Crude (Australia)	2	4
Crude (Canada)	1,286	186
Crude (Italy)	2	.....
Milled Fibre (Canada)	6,313	7,158
Lower Grades (Canada)	12,597	12,540
Lower Grades (Cyprus)	450	.....
Lower Grades (Italy)	301	.....
	22,006	21,857

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:	Sept. 1939 Pounds	Sept. 1940 Pounds
Belgium (Shingles)	54,003	.....
United Kingdom (Yarn)	.....	1,645
United Kingdom (Packing)	1,246	3,678
United Kingdom (W. Fabric)	.....	1,046
	55,249	6,369
Value	*$1,108*	*$3,137*

There was also imported during September material unclassified as to kind, to the value of $134, this coming from the United Kingdom.

Exports from U. S. A.

Exports of unmanufactured asbestos during the month of September 1940 amounted to 49 tons valued at $5,650; compared with 84 tons, valued at $6,271 in September of 1939.

Exports from U. S. A. (Cont'd)

Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	Sept. 1939		Sept. 1940	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Paper, Mlbd. & Rlbd. ....lbs.	195,037	$13,939	101,400	$ 7,450
Pipe Covg. & Cement ....lbs.	366,986	20,809	173,498	10,355
Textiles & Yarn .....lbs.	28,753	8,443	48,361	15,564
Packing .....lbs.	129,754	85,966	101,998	53,909
Brake Lining—				
Molded & Semi-molded		53,632	.....	47,065
Not Molded .....Lin. ft.	43,993	9,723	29,709	6,109
Clutch Facings—				
Molded & S-Molded units	9,391	5,393	20,994	9,294
Woven .....units	3,765	1,358	5,890	2,344
Magnesia & Mfrs. of ....lbs.	260,635	22,021	138,396	9,543
Asbestos Roofing .....sqs.	5,468	27,430	5,793	37,433
Other Manufactures ....lbs.	284,974	28,481	506,799	38,237

Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada

(Figures by Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

	Sept. 1939		Sept. 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Crude & Milled Fibres	19,086	$1,200,710	16,888	$1,064,569
Sand and Waste	13,674	252,800	15,036	308,363
	32,760	$1,453,510	31,924	$1,372,932
Manufactured Asbestos		*$ 37,685*	.....	*$ 6,546*

Africa (Union of South)

(Statistics published by Dept. of Mines and Industries of U. of S. A.)

	July 1939 Tons (2000 lbs.)	July 1940 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Transvaal		
Amosite	957	926
Blue	270	266
Chrysotile	38	18
Cape		
Blue	501	509
	1,766	1,719

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Canada

(Statistics by Bureau of Mines, Province of Quebec)

Production October 1940 ..... 34,708 Tons (2000 lbs.)

Production October 1939 ..... 44,622 Tons (2000 lbs.)

THIS and THAT

Ad of the month — Read the announcement of Norwol by the Norristown Magnesia & Asbestos Company on page 15.

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The November 1940 number of the American Roofer (published at 425 Fourth Ave., New York City) contains a number of interesting articles, which apply to insulation contractors as well as to roofing contractors. Among these are "We Licked Old Man Winter" by Roderick A. Wood, telling how a roofing contractor kept his crews busy most of the winter season; and "Handling Roofing Materials and Equipment in Safety" by John M. Roche, Industrial Safety Engineer, National Safety Council.

We feel sure you would find many helpful hints thruout this November number of The American Roofer, and if you do not already receive The American Roofer, perhaps you would even like to subscribe. We understand the cost of a year's subscription is $2.00.

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On November 27th a copy of the July 1940 number of "ASBESTOS", which was addressed to an English concern, was returned to us bearing what appeared to be the notation "Service Suspended" in a language which we haven't yet been able to identify.

It would be interesting to know the route of travel and the experiences this copy of "ASBESTOS" has had in its wanderings around the world before it returned to Philadelphia.

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The 47th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Heating & Ventilating Engineers (51 Madison Ave., New York City) will be held January 27 to 29, 1941, at the Hotel Muehlebach, Kansas City, Mo.

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Traffic sign: Slow down before you become a statistic.

CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

Canadian

	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b. Mine (In U.S. Funds)
Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1)	$700.00 to $750.00
Group No. 2 (Crude No. 2; Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry)	150.00 to 350.00
Group No. 3 (Spinning or Textile Fibre)	110.00 to 200.00
Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre)	57.00 to 85.50
Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre)	40.00 to 49.50
Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster)	30.00 to 32.00
Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts)	13.00 to 28.00

Vermont—	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f. o. b. Hyde Park, Vt.
"Shingle" Fibre	$57.00 to $60.00
Paper Stock Fibres	40.00 to 48.00
Waste	30.00
Shorts	13.00 to 26.00
Floats	18.00

Note: Crude Run-of-Mine (Canadian) refers to a crude asbestos produced in certain mines where Crude Fibre is not graded into regular No. 1 and 2 Crude. Crude Sundry refers to certain odd lots of off grade material which do not conform to the regular standards of No. 1 Crude or No. 2 Crude.

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

(These figures are compiled from the Commercial and Financial Chronicle. No guarantee made as to their correctness).

		November 1940		
	Par	Low	High	Last
Armstrong Cork Co. (Com.)	np	31	33¼	31½
Asbestos Corp. (Com.)	np	14½	16½	14½
Celotex (Com.)	np	6¾	7⅛	7
Celotex (Pfd.)	100	55	70	70
Certainteed (Com.)	1	4¾	5⅝	5⅛
Certainteed (Pfd.)	100	29⅛	38½	37¼
Flintkote (Com.)	np	15¾	18⅛	16⅜
Johns-Manville (Com.)	np	60¼	71½	62¼
Johns-Manville (Pfd.)	100	124	128½	125
Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.)	np	19	22	19¾
Ruberoid (Com.)	np	15½	18	17
Thermoid (Com.)	1	4⅛	5⅜	4½
Thermoid (Pfd.)	10	29½	35	34
U. S. Gypsum (Com.)	20	68	81	70¾
U. S. Gypsum (Pfd.)	100	170	180	176¾

TOPICAL INDEX

"ASBESTOS" - For the Year 1940

[1] This subject was added this year; therefore the complete list is given.

This Index supplements those in the April, May, June and July 1931 issues and in each December issue thereafter.

Only 15 of the 66 different subjects covered by the Topical Index are listed above, this because no articles appeared in "ASBESTOS" during 1940 under the other 51 subjects. For complete list of subjects see page 39 of December 1939 "ASBESTOS".

Our Christmas Card

If we could write a little rhyme,
To send to you at Christmas time,
'Twould have some little bells to chime
"Merry Christmas!"

And then a candle, just below,
In reverence would try to show
That Light that shone so long ago
O'er Bethlehem.

Perhaps a tree would next appear,
Green, in a world all brown and drear,
Bright with red balls to show the cheer
We wish you.

When to the end of the rhyme we came,
And just before we signed our name,
We'd wish you joy in life's coming game—
"Happy New Year!"